

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAM-01 OMB-01 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 /070 W

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O R 061102Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7413

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO ECEVIT'S CYPRUS VISIT

REF NICOSIA 017 AND 044

1. TURKISH PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENT COVERAGE TO CYPRUS VISIT OF REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY LEADER BULENT ECEVIT, WITH EMPHASIS ON HIS REMARKS IN FAMAGUSTA JANUARY 2 AND NICOSIA JANUARY 3 (REFTELS). PRO-ECEVIT PAPERS HAVE GIVEN GREATEST PLAY TO VISIT. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS GIVEN HIS STATEMENTS THAT THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE ISLAND "HAS BEEN WRITTEN ON THE CYPRIOT SOIL," AND HIS REMARKS ON PLIGHT OF TURKISH CYPRIOTES ON THE SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS, AND REGARDING NEED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE TURKISH-HELD AREAS.

2. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW:

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A. AMONG OTHER PAPERS, PROMINENT DAILY MILLIYET, UNDER SUB-

HEADLINE "THE STATUS OF CYPRUS WAS WRITTEN IN THE SOIL BY THE  
PEACE OPERATION. THERE IS NO RETURN FROM THIS POINT,Z  
QUOTED ECEVIT AS SAYING IN HIS ARRIVAL SPEECH AT FAMAGUSTAA:  
"TODAY CYPRUS HAS ACHIEVED A STATUS. THIS STATUS CANNOT BE CHANGED.  
WE HAVE ALREADY WRITTEN ON CYPRIOT SOIL THE FUTURE STATUS OF  
CYPRUS...THIS STATUS IS WRITTEN ON THE SYPRUS SOIL WITH THE  
BLOOD OF ARTYRS, AS HISTORY IS WRITTEN. THIS WRITING WILL NEVER

BE ERASED FROM THESE LANDS AGAIN. THERE WILL BE NO RETURN FROM  
THE POINT REACHED WITH TWO PEACE OPERATIONS. WHAT IS WRITTEN WITH  
MARTY'S BLOOD IN CYPRUS WILL NEVER CHANGE AGAIN..."

B. IN REFERENCE TO THE TURKS ON THE SOVERIGN BASE AREAS,  
ECEVIT WAS WIDELY QUOTED BY THE PRESS AS SAYING: "NEITHER WILL THE  
PEACE OPERATION HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BEFORE THE TURKS ON THE  
BRITISH BASES ATTAIN THEIR FREEDOM...KEEPING THE TURKS AS  
SLAVES LIKE THIS ON THE BASES IS UNSEEN ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD...  
NO PROBLEM BETWEEN THE TWO COMMUNITIES WILL BE SOLVED BEFORE  
THE TURKISH CYPRIOT ATTAINS FULL FREEDOM..."

CM PRESS ALSO REPORTED ECEVIT'S REMARKS THAT THE NEW FIGHT  
FACING THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY WAS THE FIGHT FOR ECONOMIC  
STRENGTH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT THE MARK OF VICTORY WOULD  
COME WHEN THEY NO LONGER NEEDED ASSISTANCE FROM THE MAINLAND.

3. MEANWHILE, ECEVIT'S VISIT TO ISLAND HAS AROUSED CRITICISM  
AT HOME. NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY CHAIRMAN NECMETTIN ERBAKAN,  
IN CRITICIZING THE TRIP, SAID HISTORY WOULD VINDICATE THE ROLE  
PLAYED BY HIS PARTY DURING THE MILITARY OPERATIONS, IN CONTRAST  
TO ECEVIT'S POSITION, AND SAID, "ECEVIT HAS NO RIGHT TO EXPLOIT  
CYPRUS." ALSO, MEMBERS OF THE JUSTICE PARTY HAVE BEEN STRONGLY  
CRITICAL OF VISIT. AHMET BULDANLI, JP DEPUTY FOR MUGLA,  
QUESTIONED IN PARLIAMENT THE REPORTED PROVISION OF TWO DESTROYERS  
TO ESCORT ECEVIT TO CYPRUS. JP SEC GEN NAHIT MENTESE, IN A  
STATEMENT TO THE PRESS, SAID THE RPP DID NOT WANT TO SVE CYPRUS  
BUT WANTED TO USE IT AS A STEPPING STONE. "ECEVIT WANTS TO  
MAKE A NATIONAL CUSE SUCH AS CYPRUS HIS OWN PRIVATE CAUSE."

4. COMMENT: STRONG CRITICISM OF ECEVIT'S VISIT BY OTHER PARTIES  
UNDERScores DOMESTIC POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TRIP, WHICH  
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SEEMS TO HAVE REINFORCED THE PUBLIC IDENTIFICATION OF ECEVIT WITH  
THE CYPRUS ISSE, ONE OF HIS STRONGEST POLITICAL ASSETS.  
BERGUS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLITICAL LEADERS, VISITS, SPEECHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ANKARA00092  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750004-1018  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750177/aaaacpli.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 NICOSIA 017, 75 AND 044  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO ECEVIT'S CYPRUS VISIT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, CY, TU, (ECEVIT, BULENT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006